

Dear folks

Please do not allow irradiated food to go to market unlabeled as such. I am highly interested in what goes into my food as well as any processes which may be inimical to my health which may happen to it along the way. Any new process which has not stood the test of time may be fraught with hazards and it is unconscionable to allow a process involving a potential danger such as radiation to go unannounced on the label of food that is to be sold to the public. You people are in business to protect me from possible dangers in the food that I buy and not to protect the irradiators from my need to know so they can protect their profits. It is unfortunate that your interest seems to lie with whatever lobbyist pays the most money to influence you as it seems to have become the habit of most of the government--supposedly of, for, and by the people. The technology people, unfortunately, seem mostly concerned with bringing their products to market and have again and again shown small concern for whatever dangers--known or unknown--are inherent in their products and or processes. If the technologists had shown enough concern for the totality of the process of generating power from the atom that they had invented a complete technology from beginning to cleanup we probably would have power that is "too cheap to meter"; but unfortunately as soon as a technology can be sold, it is, with numerous unfortunate results. Other examples abound and I am sure that there will be more to come. Never fear: we people are gradually becoming educated to the extreme callousness of many of those who would make money by selling products to us but they should keep in mind that without us to buy their products their companies would be nowhere. One would think that they would keep the totality of our interests more in their hearts and minds and it is of greater and greater importance that to the need for quality and quantity be added the need for safety--both personal and planetary. There are far too many people on this planet for us to be lax in our manufacturing and disposal methods and the importance of the food to everybody should make its safety be first in our list of concerns, both personally and as a culture. I, for one, do not wish to take part in the irradiated food experiment unknowingly and I also wish to be able to avoid taking part in it at all if such is my wish which it is. So do not allow irradiated food to be distributed without its being clearly labeled as to what it is. That you who are supposed to be my protectors would even consider such a thing appalls me. Why do I pay taxes to support you if you won't do what is your job. Just remember that you are my government by, as it says in the declaration, my consent and that in the long run and possibly even the short run you cannot survive in your position nor can your very position survive without it.

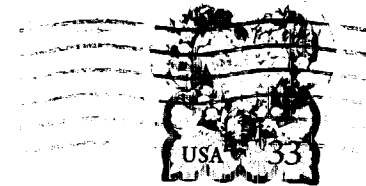
Thank you

Richard Colbert

98N-1038

C762

J. & R. Colbert
P.O. Box 608
Monte Vista, Colorado 81328



DOLBETS MANAGEMENT
BRANCH (HFA-305)
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
5630 FISHERS LANE, RM. 1061
ROCKVILLE, MD. 20852

20857/0001

